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TRAILS

AUGUST 1965



Photo courtesy of Mr. Wilson D. I. Domer

Published Three Times Annually by the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.
MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary

INCORPORATED
MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

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PEQUOT TRAILS

Published three times annually by the
Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.,
Mystic, Connecticut.

A Statement of Purpose

We want this publication to be of the utmost service to you—to keep you informed concerning the activities of the Sanctuary—in the community—in the state; and to invite your participation in these activities; and to provide you with articles of education, information and inspiration regarding conservation subjects.

Robert F. Kunz, Editor
Phone 536-9777

ANNUAL MEETING

At the Annual Meeting on July 13 the following persons were elected Trustees of the Sanctuary: Dr. William A. Niering to the class of 1966, Mrs. Richard M. Bowers, Mrs. Hugh L. M. Cole, and Mr. Agustas Peterle, Jr., to the class of one year, Mrs. Robert P. Anderson, Dr. Richard Goodwin, Mr. B. MacDonald Steers, Mr. Newton Ewalt and Mr. M. D. MacGregor to the class of 1969.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. George L. Wrenn; Second Vice President, Mr. Lawritz Anderson; Secretary, Mrs. Richard M. Bowers; Treasurer, Mr. Joseph S. Harris; Assistant Treasurer, Mr. Newton Ewalt. A brief Trustees' meeting was called at the close of the annual meeting.

This publication is free to Sanctuary members. The non-member price is 25c per copy.

PEQUOT TRAILS

Vol. XVII

August 1965

No. 2

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 20th Annual Meeting of P.S.W.S.

This is by way of being a rather special annual meeting for it is the twentieth one to be held. I know you will be glad to hear that the President's report is to be brief.

The most important item is our trial merger. As you will hear later from our Curator, we have tried to cooperate in every way with the Thames Science Center during this trial period. Now that it has gone on for eight months, it seems appropriate to review what has been done, to see if more cooperation is possible, and to evaluate the results thus far. To that end, the Executive Committee has agreed that a special committee should be appointed by the president to consist of two members and the curator. The president of the Thames Science Center has agreed to appoint a similar committee. These two small committees will meet for discussion and it is hoped that by this Fall their findings will be available to pass on to the membership.

Your trustees have also agreed to take two steps in relation to our publication, **Pequot Trails**, which, it is hoped, will enable us to produce it in a less costly manner. A price of 25c will be printed on the inside cover. Trails will of course remain free to our members but we hope we may realize something from its sale to others, either at this price or at a slightly reduced one. Since people usually value more what the pay for, this seems a wise move. In addition the trustees have decided to endeavor to secure advertising of a suitable and dignified nature from service organizations and from such businesses as nurseries, seedsmen and the like to help defray the cost of publication.

One of our greatest expenses, as you have learned from the treasurer's report is our bill for feed. In order to lower this expense, the trustees have authorized the curator to try to secure sponsors amongst local merchants who, it is hoped, may be interested in contributing funds in return for appropriate acknowledgment such as a sign near our principal bird feeder listing their names.

The completion of Route I 95 posed a problem. Up to that time no one could approach Mystic from any direction without being exposed to at least one of our signs. This spring we have installed one in the meadow bordering I 95 and visible from the east-bound lane. Very shortly we expect to have another on the right hand side of Route 27 below the exit to I 95. This will take care of visitors until the Highway Department in its wisdom thinks up a new highway to perplex us.

As you approached the Museum tonight you may have noticed a new chimney on the north side of the shed where the workshop for the Tea and Sale is held each Fall. I am happy to tell you that the chimney is attached to a furnace, more than ample for heating the shed, and that therefore the devoted workers will this Fall have warm feet. Further, the shed and its quite spacious basement will be usable year 'round. This was accomplished through the generosity of the Bodenwein Foundation whose gift of last winter made it possible.

This may not be the appropriate time, but I cannot complete my report without saying something about our Junior Curators, Stephen and David Rusch. I want to thank them both for

the work they have done for the Sanctuary. And especially I want to thank David (Stephen has a job and hasn't as much time to devote to the Sanctuary). During Mr. Kunz's recent vacation David manned the Museum each day from 10:30 to 2:00 and did a most conscientious and thorough job. We are indebted to both the Rusch boys.

In general the Sanctuary has made good progress during the past year. You can see for yourselves that the Museum boasts of new exhibits. If you have walked about outside you must have observed various new signs including a large map of the trails. The Fern Trail, commenced last year, has been added to and improved. We now have a refrigerator in the shed so that the Curator need no longer keep dead birds and various other alarming objects in the kitchen refrigerator. We also have a vacuum cleaner for maintaining the Museum. These were gifts of second-hand equipment and cost the Sanctuary nothing. I will not go into the many other aspects of progress this past year because they will be discussed in the Curator's report.

Mrs. H. L. M. Cole

Farewell Address

Before we adjourn I should like to make a few personal remarks. For the past two years I have been President of this organization, and for the three years before that I served as Vice President. It has been a most interesting and rewarding experience

and I have enjoyed every minute of it—well, **almost** every minute. I strongly believe that your Sanctuary is doing an extremely worthwhile job; that without it the Mystic area would be much poorer, and I am convinced that it will go on increasing its services to the community and rewarding those who work for it with a feeling of deep satisfaction.

But I also believe that no one should hold the same position too long and I therefore advised the chairman of the Nominating Committee that I did not wish to continue as president. This does not mean that I shall not continue to work for the Sanctuary as hard as ever—it is my first love. But I also hope to continue to serve the cause of conservation as a member of the Stonington Conservation Commission to which I shall be appointed within the month.

Whatever I may have done that has been of any value to the Sanctuary is due to two factors. I have always had the support and counsel of a wonderful Executive Committee who have, I am sure, frequently prevented me from making a fool of myself, and who have attended meetings in spite of rain, snow, hail and awful roads. And I have also been more than fortunate, as we all are, in our Curator, a most imaginative, devoted and hard-working servant of the Sanctuary, whose dedication to the cause of conservation and to the well-being of the Sanctuary is beyond question. Thank you.

CURATOR'S REPORT

One of the Sanctuary's newest programs and potentially one of its more important, the "Visiting School Group Program" (for schools and other groups) began especially this Spring to show the promise we had anticipated for it. Sixty-three youth groups totaling 1,659 students have visited the Sanctuary this year under the auspices of the School Group Program. These figures represent an increase of 30% in activity in this program over 1964 and a 60% increase over this type of activity in 1963 although at that time a formal program such as we now

have did not exist. The really important and exciting aspect of this activity is that almost one-half of these groups elected the guided program (really an introduction to ecology) and these groups received from one and a half to two and a half hours of constant instruction, depending on the age level. Through our contacts, often repeated, with these students and their instructors we know positively that the program has been effective in the transfer of knowledge and understanding regarding ecological and conservation values. The fee originally set forth in

May 1964 for the guided portion of this program was 10c per student. In September 1964 this fee was raised to 25c per student and has returned to the Sanctuary \$183.55 for this year's instruction. This program is now paying it own way and shows all indications of making at least a comparable gain in the coming year.

Another of the Sanctuary's newer programs, the Trailside Lecture Series, has now completed its third year. We are extremely pleased to report that this program has (by our standards) definitely arrived. The lectures this year were all respectably attended and on two occasions there was standing room only. Four hundred and sixty-two persons, more than double the previous year's attendance, attended this year's lectures. The total cost of the series after deducting gate receipts was \$70.54. This high quality program was within our financial capability only because of the extreme generosity of our speakers. We hope we will again be fortunate enough to have such highly qualified and generous speakers so that we can maintain the quality and practicality of this program in the coming years without recourse to charging members. Before leaving this subject area we would like to announce two new programs of an educational and entertainment nature. They are the "Trailside Film Series" and the "Trailside Slide Series." Programs are being printed and members will receive them in a separate mailing.

The Sanctuary has in the past year greatly increased its responsibility and activity in the area of state and community problems. Represented by the Curator, the Sanctuary has been actively engaged in the sound resolution or attempted resolution of many conservation issues. Space and the complex nature of these problems does not allow their airing in this report but a listing of a few will no doubt strike a note of recognition with many of you who have also been active in these areas. Barn Island Natural Area, the Connecticut Yankee Atomic Plant at Haddam Neck, the Haley Farm property, the Nature Preserves Bill (HB-3414), the Connecticut-Long Island

Bridge. While working in these areas and others, the Sanctuary has attempted to cooperate fully with other state and local conservation organizations. Many of you have noticed the increased emphasis being placed on conservation in the Sanctuary publications. It has been said by many of the leaders of the conservation movement that Sanctuaries, Nature Centers, etc., must be the ecological conscience of their communities. To be heard a conscience must speak. We will continue to increase our commitment to these essential activities as far as time, resources and other commitments will allow.

The Sanctuary publications continue to serve well as our primary means of contact with the membership. The "Pequot Conservationist" has proved its value by increasing this contact in conjunction with "Pequot Trails" and by allowing a saving in our publications cost. You may recall, however, that we had hoped to be able to issue special editions of the Conservationist to inform you of critical and immediate conservation problems and issues. Unfortunately we have not been able to do this, primarily because we do not yet own our own mimeograph machine. We hope very soon to be able to correct this situation.

During the past year we have continued to improve the educational qualities of the Sanctuary's land and museum. Several new exhibits have been constructed and most of the older ones have undergone revisions and improvement. Outdoor specimens, educational labels, and information have been added continuously. The Fern Trail and Wildflower Garden continue to grow and the Fern Trail, in particular, is getting good use. There remains in the area of outdoor education a great deal yet to be done, in fact far more than has already been accomplished.

The Field Trip Program, one of the Sanctuary's oldest, continues to have good participation. The Spring and Fall Migration Trips, the Sunday Nature Walks and the Sunday Family Field Trips were attended by 616 persons this year. Unfortunately the Youth Migration Field Trips initiated this year were not well attended and

have been deleted from the coming year's program.

The Sanctuary Trading Post, some of you have told us, is now presenting its best service yet to the members and to the public. This year for the first time in its history, the Trading Post has netted enough to pay all salaries other than the Curator's. Trading Post net \$1,029.00—salaries other than the Curator's \$1,017.15. Previous years looked like this:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| 1961 | \$ 694.20 | \$1,634.00 |
| 1962 | 813.20 | 1,634.00 |
| 1963 | 645.60 | 1,367.27 |
| 1964 | 1,131.00 | 1,508.38 |
| 1965 (as above) | 1,029.00 | 1,017.15 |

The Trading Post situation is in reality even more favorable than it appears here because in 1965 unlike previous years only about 50% of the salaries shown are rightfully committed to the Trading Post, the remainder being utilized in a wide variety of other Sanctuary activities. The Trading Post is therefore, also for the first time actually making a net contribution after salaries to the general funds of the Sanctuary.

The focal point of the conservation education efforts of the Sanctuary is the Sanctuary land and museum building in Mystic. The number of persons visiting these facilities is important because we cannot teach without contact. We continue to grow in this area and have set another new record of attendance. In addition to the 1,647 students visiting under the School Group Program, and the 462 persons attending the Lecture Series, 673 persons in adult group and 102 in miscellaneous programs and 8,721 daily visitors have come to the Sanctuary, a total of 11,615 — an increase of 30% over last year's record of 8,935. Many of the Sanctuary visitors wend their way to us because of friends who are members. Thank you and keep up the good work.

The land productivity program to which so many of you gave so generously continues to progress slowly. A change has been initiated in the program whereby section (2) "key release cuttings in the forested area of the Sanctuary" has been postponed indefinitely and will be replaced by section (3) "fertilization of the meadows."

Added to section (3) will be the selected plantings of conifers, mostly hemlocks, in the forested area of the Sanctuary. Section (3) will be accomplished according to moisture conditions either this Fall or next Spring. Under present planning the final section (4) of this program "creation of a dog-leg duck pond in the marsh area of the meadows" will follow section (3) and should be in progress not later than Spring 1967.

The "Tea and Sale" and "Bird Ball" were both successful again this year although the "Tea and Sale" was less so than last year. Nature cannot be expected always to cooperate in these matters and she was not cooperating on Tea Day 1964. It rained all day long and the rain was we believe the reason for our diminished success in this event. The proceeds of the "Tea and Sale" and the "Bird Ball" are an absolute necessity to the financial well being of the Sanctuary. Please continue or extend your support of the Sanctuary by participating in these two events.

The trial merger of the Sanctuary and of the Thames Science Center continues and will be in force by original and current agreement until November 1st, 1965. At this time we wish to inform you that every effort is being made by both organizations toward effective cooperation. This has thus far manifested itself in the purchase of certain items wholesale without profit including bird seed by the Sanctuary for the Center, by the opening of the Sanctuary Lecture Series to the Center members on a member basis, by cooperative efforts in certain field trip programs, and by our efforts to assist one another where and when possible.

The Sanctuary membership continues to increase. There are now 800 card carrying members and approximately 111 additional persons who are bona fide members by virtue of the family memberships. Membership is the lifeblood of the Sanctuary, not only financially, but also as it measures our influence in conservation matters in the community and state. We take this opportunity to urge you to send us the names of potential new members. A few of you are doing so at this time and the response in new

members of those contacted is better than 50%.

One of the more frustrating problems the Sanctuary faces at this stage of its growth is that although it has attained the interest and support of enough of the community to make bigger and better efforts in all fields of its endeavors, it still does not have enough funds (annual income) to employ the necessary additional personnel to effect these new efforts. If by might and main on the part of all those concerned we were able to double the membership in the next few years, this situation would be at least temporarily resolved, and much, much more could be accomplished.

The conservation problems facing us today, even in our own community, which is growing very rapidly, are great and complex. It is imperative that all persons of our community become aware of this organization (many are not) and its work and that their contribution in time, energy, finances and intellectual support be added to your own.

The Sanctuary in turn may keep them informed on conservation matters and act as the well supported thus influential conservation conscience of the community. In all this we need your help. A very brief resume of the current program and activities is attached to this report. We feel it will be of value in reminding you of what the Sanctuary is doing and perhaps be useful in your quest for new support. (Additional copies are available.)

The Sanctuary has had a busy and successful year. In some ways the past year has been the most productive in our twenty year history. We look forward now, with your support, to the challenges that lie ahead and to new and greater success in the coming year.

Before terminating this report we wish to thank the membership, the trustees and the officers for their co-operation and enthusiasm and labors of the past year.

Robert F. Kunz,
Curator

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.

July 1, 1964 to June 30, 1965

A. General Receipts and Disbursements

| | 1963/64 Actual | 1964/65 Actual | 1965/66 Proposed Budget |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Receipts | | | |
| Membership Dues | \$ 4,925 | \$ 5,540 | \$ 6,200 |
| Non-Specific Contributions | | | |
| Collection Boxes | 2,550 | 2,262 | 700 |
| Interest and Dividends | 295 | 411 | 450 |
| School Groups and Rentals | 142 | 189 | 250 |
| Trading Post—Net | 1,118(a) | 801(a) | 1,100 |
| Tea and Sale—Net | 1,976 | 1,624 | 2,000 |
| Bird Ball—Net | 1,524 | 1,897 | 2,000 |
| Total | \$12,630 | \$13,002 | \$13,000 |

(a) These figures when adjusted for inventory changes are:
1963/64 \$865 and 1964/65 \$1,029.

Disbursements:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|----------|----------|
| Salaries | | \$ 6,034 | \$ 6,300 |
| Curator House | | 960 | 1,000 |
| Museum Operation and Maintenance | | 2,062 | 2,100 |
| Feed for Birds and Exhibits | (b) | 770 | 800 |
| Office Operation and Supplies | | 958 | 1,000 |
| Truck Operation | | 412 | 400 |

Trails and Conservationist
Lecture Series—Net

1,188
87

1,200
200

Total

\$11,947 \$12,471 \$13,000

(b) Comparative Disbursement Breakdown not available for 1963/64 on
breakdown basis in use in 1964-65 and 1965/66.

B. Specific-Purpose Gifts Account 1964-65

Purpose:

Mortgage Reduction
Memorials
Curator's House
Office Equipment
Heating System—Shed

| Receipts | Expenditures |
|----------|--------------|
| \$ 800 | \$ 800 |
| 30 | 25 |
| 45 | 45 |
| 19 | 19 |
| 415 | 285 |

\$ 1,309

1,174
135

Unexpended: Cash on Hand

\$ 1,309

C. Land Management Fund

Cash on Hand—7/1/64
Received from Commodity Credit Corp.

\$ 723
125

Cash on Hand—6/30/65

\$ 848

D. Cash Reconciliation

Cash in Banks—7/1/64
General Receipts over Disbursements
Unexpended Specific—Purpose Gifts
Received for Land Management Fund

\$ 396
531
135
125

See Section A.
See Section B.
See Section C.

Cash in Banks—6/30/65

\$ 1,187

Distribution of Cash in Banks—6/30/65

General Funds
Specific—Purpose Gifts Account
Land Management Fund

\$ 204
135
848

Total

\$ 1,187

E. Gifts of Stocks

1 sh IBM common stock—Value 6/30/65

\$ 458

F. Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets

Cash in Hartford National Bank
Cash in Groton Savings Bank
Cash at Trading Post
25 sh Dupont common stock @ 235
39 sh General Motors common stock @ 95
1 sh IBM common stock @ 458
Trading Post Inventory at Cost
Ford Pick-up Truck
Tools, Mower, other equipment
Furniture and Fixtures
Museum Building
Curator's Residence
Perry Land—92 acres

\$ 431
756
35
5,875
3,705
458
746
720
120
4,000
25,000
25,000
7,850

Total

\$74,696

Mortgage Loan at 4%

Liabilities

\$ 5,700

Total

\$ 5,700

Joseph S. Harris, Treasurer
Newton Ewalt, Ass't Treasurer

Living Museums vs. Recreation

Minimal disturbance by modern man is inherent in our concept of a "natural area." We assume that the impact of the American Indian on nature, because of his small numbers and the crudeness of his tools, was almost negligible. Only insofar as he was responsible for more wild-fires than lightning alone would have caused, does the Indian seem to have influenced his environment to any significant degree.

Natural areas have many value for modern man. They preserve against the day when man or nature may have uses for them delicate species that cannot tolerate much disturbance of their environment. In this, natural areas serve as modern "Noah's Arks." They are also biological laboratories in which scientists can learn more about how the world of living things functions in response to the forces of nature. Here the causative agent for every observed phenomena must be sought in nature. In such areas, climate shifts and changing radiation levels can be more easily detected and evaluated.

Those who make a hobby of some branch of nature study will—in their search for the shy and the delicate and the rare—increasingly seek out natural areas. If such preserves are so scarce as to cause too great a concentration of hobbyists, there is danger that in time they may begin to lose their naturalness and with it some of their scientific value as a research area. It is to be hoped, however, that we can set up enough natural areas in every part of the country to permit free "public"

use by those who seek the things which only a natural area can provide.

Already, however, we face the problem of increasing use of natural areas by segments of the public who have no interest in nature, but are simply looking for places to swim, picnic, hike, camp or enjoy some other form of outdoor activity. To these people, a natural area's chief attraction is its absence of "no trespassing" signs, and it is at this point that those interested in natural area preservation must firmly draw the line. What these people are looking for are recreation lands and it seems unlikely that we shall be so successful in preserving natural areas that we can afford to release them for purely recreational use.

Recreation lands in public ownership so that every citizen can enjoy reasonable access to the sea and lakeshore, to rivers and ponds, to forests and mountain peaks, are essential to the maintenance of our American standard of living. Unfortunately, the time is not far off when all land that possesses high recreational value will be either publicly owned or the jealously guarded private holdings of those who can afford to purchase such property.

We need both natural areas and recreation lands, but it would be a great mistake to let the public come to regard natural areas as recreation lands. Ultimately, the country should have probably a hundred times as much land in various recreation categories as in the natural area category. Nothing would be a greater disservice to the public at this time, when action to acquire more recreation land is so badly needed, than to let recreational use of natural areas hide the fact that adequate land is not being obtained for recreation.

Richard H. Pough

BIRD WATCHERS' PARADISE

Emma Aubert Cole

Three miles off the coast of South Carolina, and some twenty miles north-east of Charleston, lies Bulls Island, part of an original barrier reef. Only about six miles long and two miles wide, it contains more wildlife than most of us see in a lifetime. It is heavily wooded with live oaks, magnolias, pines and palmettos in the interior, bordered on the Atlantic side by a broad, shell-strewn beach, and on the west by great tidal marshes intersected by winding channels. The wooded area contains several large freshwater ponds. Thus this small island provides suitable habitat for a great variety of both land, shore and water birds, which visit there during the migration seasons, as well as deer, raccoons, fox squirrels, an occasional river otter, alligators and diamond-back terrapin. Even the giant sea turtle visits its outer beaches to lay eggs.

For the fisherman, Jacks Creek Pond, the only one on which boats are allowed, provides fishing from late

Spring to early Fall. Largemouth bass, bluegill, bream (locally pronounced "brim") and other species abound. The author and her husband walked out of the woods to find two fishermen in a boat nearby. In five minutes they took three fish.

But while the fishing is good and the island provides many things of interest to the botanist and naturalist, it is for its birds that it is famous. From 130 to 145 species have been listed during the annual Christmas Bird Counts, and over a period of years 233 species have been recorded in the Government-owned Cape Remain National Wildlife Refuge, of which Bulls Island is a part; most of these were seen on the Island. Even the author, a notoriously ineffective bird watcher, saw 38 species on the Island and its adjacent islets during less than two days' stay. This was during the Spring migration in early April and did not include the many warblers heard but not seen clearly amongst the Spanish moss of the forest.

Surrounded by enormous spreading live oaks, hung with Spanish moss, Dominick House is the only bit of civilization on an unspoiled island teeming with birds.



From the point of view of both quantity and variety, Fall, Winter and Spring are the best times to visit the Island, with the largest waterfowl flights in late October and early November, but even during the rest of the year there is a fairly large permanent population, augmented by migrant stragglers. Among the permanent residents are Little and Great Blue Herons, Common and Snowy Egrets, Louisiana and Black-crowned Night Herons, Wood Ducks, Cooper's, Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks, Bald Eagles, Wild Turkeys, King and Clapper Rails, Common Gallinules, American Oyster Catchers, Laughing Gulls, Willets, Caspian Terns, Barn and Screech Owls, Pileated and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Long-billed Marsh Wrens, Yellow-throated and Pine Warblers, Boat-tailed Grackles, "White-eyed" Towhees, and, of course, the inevitable Mockingbird and Cardinal, plus a great many others familiar to us here.

Space does not permit listing the many other birds which, while not year 'round residents are either abundant or commonly seen in Winter. Amongst them, however, are the Horned Grebe, Gannet, many kinds of duck, Greater Yellowlegs, Dunlin, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Hermit Thrush, Myrtle Warbler and Swamp Sparrow. In addition, there is always the possibility of seeing some rare visitor to add to your Life List. The author will swear she saw an Oregon Junco in a flock of Indigo Buntings, although there is no record of such a sighting.

Bulls Island takes its name from Stephen Bull who settled there in 1670. It remains largely unchanged since his day with the exception of twelve miles of paths, roads and trails along which the visitor may wander at will. It is, however, advisable to stay on them because the Island also boasts of one poisonous snake, the cotton-mouth moccasin.

Very comfortable accommodations with superb and plentiful food at reasonable prices are available at Dominick House, illustrated here. A large rambling dwelling, formerly the prop-

erty of Gayer C. Dominick, it was sold to the Government in 1936 and is now the only inhabited structure on the Island. Because accommodations are limited to about 15, and because there are no organized bird walks, it is possible to wander for hours without seeing a soul, either amongst the hushed silence of the primeval trees only broken by birdsong, or along the wide eastern beach. You can easily imagine yourself back in the 17th Century when, looking along a grassy glade you see a wild turkey cock posing on a fallen tree, or watch a mother alligator and her brood sunning themselves on the bank of one of the ponds (safely on the far side of a lagoon I might add). Here, in New England, where the sight of one American egret is exciting, it is almost unbelievable to see half a dozen, interspersed with Snowies, Little Blues and a multitude of lesser water fowl walking about amongst sleeping alligators or swimming nearby with the greatest nonchalance.

While the great spreading live oaks, the magnolias and loblolly pines are the giants of the forest, there are many beautiful shrubs and vines: yau-pon, holly, yellow jessamine, muscadine, laurel, greenbriar, Virginia creeper, and, of course, poison ivy, which provide hiding and nesting places for the many passerine birds which either live here or stop over during their Spring and Fall migrations.

Bulls Island is reached by driving up or down U. S. 17 to a place called Awendaw, and going thence by Sewee Road for five miles to Moore's Landing on the Inland Waterway where a boat from the Island meets visitors by appointment. Times of departure were dependent upon the tides this past April, but a longer dock was under construction and may well be completed by this Fall. For reservations write Mrs. C. H. Mills, Bulls Island, Awendaw, S. C., or telephone Mobile Unit YJ6-3473, Charleston, S. C. Be sure to write well in advance in order to avoid disappointment.

And if you can possibly go, don't miss it. You'll never regret it or forget it.

Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there is no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth.—Isaiah 5:8

The Real Threat To Wilderness:

POPULATION

By BRUCE WELCH

Mr. Welch is Assistant Professor of Biology at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia.

Certainly we, like those who have preceded us on the battlefield of conservation, must fight to maintain the integrity of our natural areas. And there is no doubt that we need to establish new natural preserves and additional outdoor recreation facilities to meet the demands of our expanding population. This idea has gained such wide acceptance that it is now a familiar theme not only in conservation publications, but in the news media and in popular magazines as well. Various branches of our government and many private conservation organizations are working to meet these demands. But this is not enough.

Our basic problem is not the saving and protecting of land. It is stopping the ominous, uncontrolled expansion of our population. Any attempt to meet the increasing demands for outdoor recreational resources without simultaneous action to curb the increase in population is but a poor stopgap measure at the very best. We are feverishly busying ourselves to avoid facing the problem. We are digging deliberately at our foxhole when the enemy is upon us. We are simply taking aspirin when the body is being consumed by cancerous growth.

Ecologists know that populations of all kinds have built-in checks for controlling their own numbers. Such checks are essential for the survival of the populations. But the checks are

We have printed the following three articles because it is absolutely imperative to the cause of conservation that all of us recognize and come to grips with the crux of the conservation problem, which is over population. In the long run and we are on the run right now, it gains us little to teach conservation education, and to set aside Sanctuaries, Natural Areas, and Wilderness Areas, if at the same time we do not face and deal with a population problem which will, if not resolved, simply swallow by sheer necessity and force of numbers those areas already set aside. Conservation education and resource preservation will have lasting meaning and affect only if the population problem is resolved. ED.

often quite uncomfortable for the individuals and the populations concerned. The bill is paid by the individuals.

There is a difference between the physiology and the behavior of crowded and uncrowded organisms. In lower mammals these differences are often manifest, among the crowded, in impaired fertility, poorer lactation and maternal care, and decreased viability of young. The average animal is smaller. It is more susceptible to disease. And an increasingly large number of extremely deviant individuals appear.

Nature of the Changes

Ecologists know that these changes are not necessarily associated with a short food supply. They may be due to social and psychological factors, and occur even when food is superabundant. Animals are not simply machines for the consumption of food. Each kind, including man, has behavioral and physiological limitations of one sort or another.

Yet, to my knowledge, not a single conservation-oriented article that has been published has faced the fact that the only action which can provide a lasting solution to our land resource problems is one that will provide a means of controlling human population. When continual human population expansion has been mentioned in this context, it has been blindly ac-

cepted as inevitable, and discussion has been directed towards devising means to provide for its demands. Simple arithmetic should suffice to show that this approach is madness and folly. Suppose we provide for the population that will exist fifty years from now. Then what? Our problems will only be compounded faster and faster.

The world's limiting human population is not to be computed on the basis of the number of mouths that conceivably could be fed. That is not the question. Far from being depleted or overtaxed, the resources of our seas have scarcely been tapped, even on the highest trophic levels. In many countries the amount of food taken from the sea is governed by the demand of consumers, not by a limiting supply. In some of the most heavily populated countries, seafoods and various other types of foods go unused because of cultural taboos and for want of education. In our own country we have surpluses and pay farmers not to produce food. Mass culture of foods promises to become a practical reality in the not too distant future. Our problem will be one of education, technology and distribution—if not of over-eating. It need not be one of starvation.

Far short of the population density that will tax our potential food supply there will be a limit to human tolerance, the advent of social and cultural stagnation, the disappearance of freedom—and compassion—and sensible morality, the reign of an artificially tranquilized and emotionless sub-animal existence.

The German explorer, Alexander von Humboldt — whose influence touched virtually every field of human knowledge—spoke in vivid terms of the effects of natural surroundings upon the human mind. The great British historian of the nineteenth century, Henry Thomas Buckle, and later the German philosopher, Emanuel Kant, wrote at length of the natural environment and its meaning for national character. To them the national character was the average of the personalities, attitudes, temperaments, and idealogies of all the individuals of a nation. In part it was

due to the cultural heritage. And in part it was dependent upon the physical and social environment.

That beauty and naturalness, in this regard, are an important part of our emotional and conceptual environment was an implicit assumption of the American philosopher, George Santayana, as expressed in his **Sense of Beauty** in more recent years: "But we—the minds that ask all the questions and judge the validity of all answers—we are not ourselves independent of this world in which we live. We sprang from it, and our relations in it determine all our instincts and satisfactions."

Boys need to match themselves against mountains. They need to know the penetrating purity of a Spring morning's dew. Men need to know the stillness of their own mind, the quietness of God's hidden places. Such is the essence of serenity, and the seed of poetry and deep understanding.

Certainly man cannot "return to nature." Nor can he return to the condition of the "noble savage," if ever such a creature existed. It is not desirable that he should. Man has increased in understanding of himself and of his world as he has molded his civilization. He can never be free of it. But neither can he be free of his natural environment. It is in the achievement of a harmonious balance between them that he will find his optimum existence.

If we hold wilderness and natural beauty to be important to man's most meaningful habitation of the earth, although perhaps in ways that we do not yet understand, then we must act immediately to curb his uncontrolled increase in numbers. The medium estimate of the United Nations (and such estimates have almost invariably proven to be too low) is that the world population will more than double within the next thirty-five years. Three and a half decades is not a very long time.

We cannot begin to act too soon.

Reprinted from Vol. I of **Articles and Reprints of The Natural Area Council, Inc.**, 205 E. 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

Population Crisis Committee Formed

An announcement of the committee's formation was carried in the April 21, 1965, issues of the **New York Times** and of the **Washington Post**. Both articles quoted from an interview with former Senator Kenneth B. Keating, of New York, who has accepted the chairmanship of the group.

According to Mr. Keating, the committee is a private organization which seeks "deeper Governmental involvement in promoting birth control. The **New York Times** reports that the Population Crisis Committee will differ from other birth-control groups by engaging in direct lobbying in Washington.

Among his associates on the committee, Mr. Keating mentioned Hugh Moore, chairman of the board of the Dixie Cup Company; Cass Canfield, chairman of the executive committee of Harper & Row; and William H. Draper, Jr., a former Army general now chairman of the board of Combustion Engineering, Inc. Mr. Keating indicated that the group would be financed by "philanthropists and persons interested in the program."

Mr. Keating said that the committee's work would supplement "the excellent work of planned parenthood and research organizations in the field." A primary goal, he indicated, will be "an increase in Federal expenditure for birth-control research."

The committee has opened an office in Washington, D. C., at 1730 K Street, N.W. (Telephone: 659-1833). The Executive Secretary is Mrs. Phyllis Pietro.

Following are a few quotes from Mr. Keating's statements since his appointment.

"The world population explosion is fast becoming the most critical problem of our time. It will have a profound effect upon the welfare of mankind in the decades ahead, and will be a determining influence for war and peace."

There will be another 150 million people in the United States in 35 years at the present rate of increase. This presents the possible prospect of

8 million unemployed instead of 5 million today—of 10 million on welfare, of 30 million elderly and 100 million children to be taken care of.

"The world-wide population projection is staggering to contemplate. There will be one billion—1,000 million—more people in the next 15 years—a number greater than all the people now living in the 55 countries of Europe and the entire Western Hemisphere taken together. The most rapid growth is in poor countries that can least afford it and whose struggle for a better living is seriously handicapped by unprecedented proliferation.

"A solution is now being sought by the leading religious faiths — Protestant, Catholic and Jewish. Pope Paul VI has said, 'The question is being subjected to study, as wide and profound as possible, as grave and honest as it must be on a subject of such importance.'

"President Johnson in his State of the Union Message said, 'I will seek new ways to use our knowledge to help deal with the expansion of world population.' Today, however, the United States is spending less than \$10 million on this basic problem out of an annual budget of \$15 billion for research. This amount is less than 1% of the cost of putting a man on the moon in 1970!

"The current explosive growth of population threatens the success of the Alliance for Progress, the War on Poverty, Foreign Aid and innumerable domestic problems to which the Congress has committed billions of dollars.

"Since the Committee's purpose is to stimulate public action, it will supplement, and in no way conflict, with the excellent work of Planned Parenthood and other private educational and research organizations in the field."

"What is happening is on such a vast scale, and so unprecedented, that it is difficult to imagine. It is changing the lives of every one of us—not only in the exploding countries we hear about but in more developed areas, such as the United States. Its impact

on the lives of our children may literally be catastrophic.

"There is no single solution to these complicated problems but one thing is certain: they are not going to be solved without a sharp reduction in birth

rates. The need is so vast, and populations are increasing at such speeds, that the solution is far beyond the capacity of private organizations. Only governments are large enough, with enough resources, to handle such tremendous task."

POPULATION PROBLEM CONTINUED

From The Associated Press
Washington, April 25, 1965

A committee of scientists urged the Federal government yesterday to take a stronger role in promoting birth control in the United States, including the appointment of an administrator to help implement public and private programs.

It said U. S. population growth is a major obstacle to many social gains and helps put prosperity beyond the reach of millions of Americans.

A special committee of the National Academy of Sciences warned that, contrary to a common view, the "population explosion" is a crucial problem within the U. S., instead of being confined largely to developing countries.

The group declared in a 25-page report that if present fertility and mortality trends continue, America's population will surpass the present world population in 150 years—"and in about 650 years, there would be one person

per square foot through the United States." According to the Census Bureau, there were 60 persons per square mile in the U. S. in 1960.

The 11-member group urged immediate attention by governmental and private organizations and civic leaders to what is termed the two basic elements of the population problem in the United States:

¶The steady and persistent increases in population upon which the post-war surge in birth-rate has been superimposed.

¶A prevailing high fertility among low-income groups.

The report declared: "It is clear that rapid population growth will create difficulties in reaching America's noble goals of optimum education for all, universal abundance, enriched leisure, equal opportunity, quality, beauty and creativity."

TO THE FRIENDS OF CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE

When making your will we hope you will remember the work of the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary. We receive no aid from public tax funds. Bequests and donations to the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary are deductible from federal and state estate and income taxes. Form of bequest may read: "I give and bequeath unto the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, the sum of \$....." If the bequest is other than money a description should be attached.

The Mounting Crisis Between Bulldozers and Ladyslippers

Unless men of leadership recognize the growing importance of natural space on earth, our frantic race to the moon may be of little use. Today America is faced with one of the most serious domestic crises in its history—the problem of skyrocketing population and urbanization and the swallowing up of the natural countryside.

Year by year, month by month, day by day, the engulfment of woods and wet areas and beach country continues. Each year, each month, each day, the stealing fingers of encroachment are taking away forests, meadows, marshes, scenic areas, homes of wildlife—all **natural** areas, some with great potential recreational value. Experts estimate that each year we are losing 1,100,000 acres of land to urban development, subdivisions, highways, shopping centers, industrial plants. In all great metropolitan centers, cities are losing their natural "wild" places as one urban agglomeration after another merges with development centers of the next. Natural spots of hinterland, scenic water areas, picturesque hills and dales, haunting wild beaches with their sanderlings and skimmers, are swiftly passing by the board. More and more, families must travel greater distances to find a bit of shade and solace. More and more the outdoorsman must drive longer to find a place to pitch a tent or locate a bit of natural water to wet a line.

Nothing is more heart-rending to the conservationist these days than to see parcel after parcel of natural space sacrificed completely in a passion for urban development and to see little or nothing done to preserve our few remaining wild places.

Last summer I had a good opportunity to see what is happening to America—your America, our America, the land of the free and the home of the brave, the land our forefathers fought so hard to establish as a great nation and passed on to us with the simple solemn admonition: **take care of America lest you sell our heritage down the river.** Having covered some 33,000 miles of the continent by air,

rail, automobile and boat, I can say with deepest gravity and humility that we're tearing down the face of America at a shocking rate. A few examples will suffice.

Here is a metropolitan area—some 300,000 in population — and growing like wildfire. A close look around shows that little is being done to provide additional public parks, parkways and recreation areas or to save its disappearing surrounding scenic areas. Juvenile crime is increasing, and nothing is done for the wholesome recreation of young people. Instead, comes the hue and cry: "What we need is more industry."

Granted, industry is needed to keep our economy going but the rational man asks: Is it necessary to sacrifice everything for the sake of development?

Here is another section of land, near a city—72 acres to be exact. It is woodland and farm country. It has been lovely hinterland for centuries. Its woods and ladyslippers and creatures have been wild for eons of time. Sure, when the white man came he cleared some of the land but he saved half the woods, kept a small marsh intact for muskrats and wood ducks and let the ladyslippers grow. Fine land, rolling, airy, beautiful, it would have made a lovely park someday for the city and its suburban community. But no. Economics decreed it to be sold for \$2000 an acre and turned into home development. Already the bulldozers are tearing out the trees, leveling the hillocks and scooping out the last of the springs and meadows. Not one pine will be left and not one root of hepatica will remain under the cool blanket of leaves when the developers get through.

In the United States proper, there is a land surface of 2,973,700 square miles. Three hundred years ago most of this area was wild land, with great stands of oak, pines, hemlocks, and with sparkling watercourses and land largely untouched by man.

Today the wild country has shrunk to approximately two and two-tenths

per cent of the total land area. The country's remaining wilderness lands would fit an area the size of Georgia. They may shrink still further.

In a real sense, America's wild land is important. For the immigrant who arrived yesterday and for the fourth generation "American," it is a symbol of the nation. It represents a pioneer heritage in which the individual, not machines and things, is valued.

Every 12 seconds our population increases by one person. Each year there are increasing demands on our natural resources. More persons seek recreation; greater demands are necessitated on water, wildlife and minerals. In the face of our increasing population and the growing mechanization of so much of our activity, our only democratic hope for success in preserving our wild lands is in a policy of deliberately setting aside such areas for preservation and then maintaining the integrity of our designation.

What is needed everywhere in Amer-

ica is an immediate and long-range program of action to save our remaining wild lands—save the public lands we now have, acquire new public recreation areas wherever they can be found, and especially, to set aside family-size parks and recreation areas outside of mushrooming metropolitan centers.

Unless we are deliberate in saving some of our natural environment on earth—an environment we know to be salubrious to man—our race to the lifeless moon with its extremes in temperatures surely will be of little avail. If a man can't make a good home on the planet earth, which has proved to sustain life for eons of time, attempting to settle a bleak no man's land in outer space seems little short of absurd.

Reprinted from Vol. #1 of Articles and Preprints of the Natural Area Council, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary
Mystic, Connecticut

Date

() *Regular:* \$7.50 annually

() *Family:* \$15.00 annually

() *Patron:* \$50.00 annually

() *Sustaining:* \$25.00 annually

() *Contributing:* \$12.50 annually

() *Life:* \$300.00

Contributions to the Sanctuary are Tax Deductible.

Organizations are eligible for Patron, Contributing or Sustaining Memberships only.

Signed

M.....

[PLEASE SPECIFY WHETHER MR., MRS., OR MISS]

Permanent Mailing Address

Please make checks payable to "P.S.W.S., INC." and mail to *The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Mystic, Connecticut*

TRADING POST

We want the Trading Post to be a valuable service to you. We need the added support your patronage of the Trading Post will lend to the Sanctuary. We offer our members a discount of 10%-15%. We cannot enumerate all of the items stocked in the Trading Post on this page devoted to advertisement but we will be pleased to discuss them with you personally.

BIRD—CALLS, HOUSES, FEEDERS, TILES
**BIRD SEED—SUNFLOWER SEED, MIXED BIRD SEED,
CRACKED CORN**

— MEMBER DISCOUNTED PRICES —

| Sunflower Seed | Mixed Seed | Cracked Corn |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 100 lbs. \$12.75 | 100 lbs. \$8.85 | 100 lbs. \$5.00 |
| 50 lbs. \$ 6.50 | 50 lbs. \$4.70 | 10 lbs. \$.55 |
| 5 lbs. \$.75 | 10 lbs. \$1.05 | |

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book for travelers)

BOOKS OF OUTSTANDING IMPORTANCE

The Quiet Crisis, by Stewart L. Udall

Silent Spring (now available in paperback) by Rachel Carson

A CONSERVATION PROGRAM OF EDUCATION AND RECREATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

WHAT IS THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY?

The Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Connecticut for the purpose of promoting a community program of conservation education. The program includes work for the preservation and restoration of our natural resources.

It is a unique community enterprise in that it is supported entirely by interested citizens through memberships and contributions.

YOU AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Members, now totaling over 800, reside in eighteen states and the District of Columbia.

Membership is open to everyone. The present membership includes both amateurs and professionals in natural history subjects and many who recognize the Sanctuary's educational influence in community life.

Five members are elected to the Board of Trustees annually to serve for terms of four years each. The Officers of the Sanctuary are elected annually by the Board of Trustees.

BECOME A MEMBER OR GIVE NOW! All memberships include a subscription to our publications, and have the privilege of participation in all scheduled events.

TAKE AN ACTIVE PART! Opportunities will be offered for participation in field trips, Sanctuary visits, committee work and many other activities.

HERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY to affiliate now with an organization actively engaged in the promotion of a worthy community program of conservation education and recreation.

THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY:

Maintains 218 acres of land for the purpose of teaching others the ways and values of protection and restoration of our birds, wildlife and other natural resources.

Maintains a trailside museum and a series of nature trails which tell the story of nature in a most instructive and fascinating manner.

In cooperation with the schools, girl scouts, boy scouts, community centers and other youth organizations, promotes a program of conservation education for children.

Conducts a year around program of field trips and activities for members.

Through personal guidance of the Curator, serves as a source of information and help on local and national conservation problems.

Furnishes information relative to the value of conservation to many individuals and organizations through correspondence, the press, and lectures.

Pursues a long range development program that insures a permanent and increasingly beneficial service to all local communities.

Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.

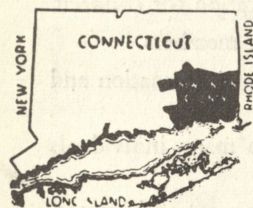
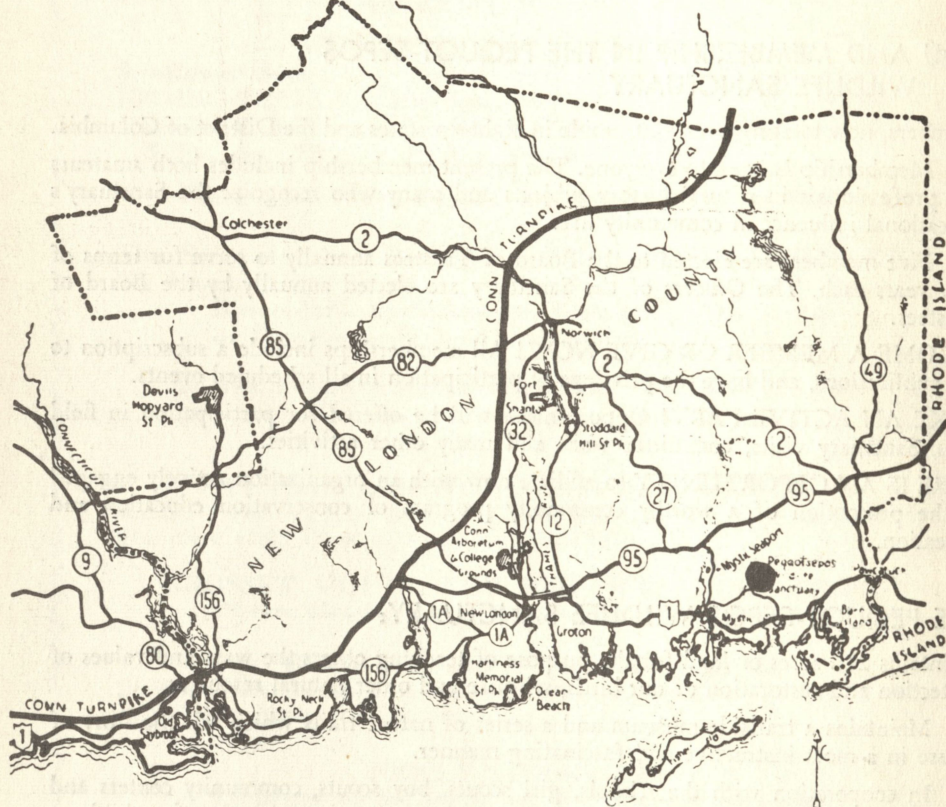
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To reach Sanctuary from west, take Route 95 and bear right on Route 27 at Old Mystic. Continue to Jerry Brown Road and follow signs. Or take Route 1 through Mystic to Post Office, turn left and follow signs.